Customary for Communion from Reserved Sacrament
The Episcopal Diocese of Wisconsin

"When the service of a priest cannot be obtained, the bishop may, at discretion, authorize a deacon to distribute Holy Communion to the congregation from the reserved Sacrament"

Instructions from the Book of Common Prayer, p. 408

> When the service of a priest cannot be obtained, the bishop may, at discretion, authorize a deacon to distribute Holy Communion to the congregation from the reserved Sacrament in the following manner:
>
> 1. After the Liturgy of the Word (and the receiving of the people's offering), the deacon reverently places the consecrated Sacrament on the
> Altar, during which time a communion hymn may be sung.
>
> 2. The Lord's Prayer is then said, the deacon first saying, "Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ hath (has) taught us."
>
> 3. And then, omitting the breaking of the Bread, the deacon proceeds with what follows in the liturgy as far as the end of the postcommunion
> prayer, and then dismisses the people.

The Authority (priest or in the absence of a priest the warden(s)) for the Congregation will obtain permission from the bishop to authorize a deacon to officiate at a service(s) where communion from the reserved sacrament is provided.

If in the event of a sudden illness/absence of a priest and the bishop/canon to the ordinary is not available to authorize the deacon to officiate at a service(s), the deacon may conduct the service where communion from the reserve sacrament is provided. The Authority or the deacon will notify the bishop with 3 days of the service and provide the circumstances. If the absence of the priest extends, the Authority will request permission per this customary for future services.

The attached is the service from the Reserve Sacrament to be used for this practice in the Diocese of Wisconsin. The litany should be printed in the bulletin or provided as an insert.

Instructions for the Use of the Customary:

After the Liturgy of the Word (and the receiving of the people's offering) the deacon places the consecrated Sacrament on the Altar, during which time a communion hymn may be sung.

The officiating deacon then walks to a place in the midst of the Assembly, stands facing the Altar (with the Assembly standing), and invites them to join in the Litany of the Consecrated Gifts.

Following the Litany of the Consecrated Gifts, the officiating deacon then walks to the table, picks up the Bread and the Cup, faces the Assembly and says, "The Gifts of God for the People of God." There is no fraction or fraction anthem. The Deacon receives the Sacrament in both kinds, then communes the Lay Eucharistic Minister(s), then, together, they commune the people.. Hymn(s) or anthem (s) may be sung during the distribution, according to the congregation's custom.

After Communion, the officiating deacon clears the Altar, the deacon leads the congregation in the customary post communion prayer.

Following the post communion prayer the officiating deacon leads the assembly in the Act of Thanksgiving.

Following the Act of Thanksgiving, the officiating deacon then dismisses the people. No blessing is given.

A hymn may be sung before or after the post-communion prayer.

Enclosure:

Communion from the Reserve Sacrament Service Order

Communion From Reserved Sacrament

A hymn, psalm, or anthem may be sung.

The people standing

Deacon Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.**
Amen.

In place of the above, from Easter Day through the Day of Pentecost
Deacon Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

In Lent and on other penitential occasions
Deacon Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **His mercy endures for ever.**

The Deacon may say
Hear what our Lord Jesus says:
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Matthew 22:37-40

The Deacon then says
Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.
Kneel as able
Silence may be kept

Deacon and People
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will,
and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.

Deacon (*kneeling*)

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
People **Amen.**

Kyrie eleison, the Trisagion, or the Gloria in excelsis (Standing as able)

Deacon The Lord be with you
People **And also with you**

Deacon prays the collect

People **Amen**

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm

New Testament Lesson

Gospel

Homily

Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People

After the Liturgy of the Word, the Deacon, standing before the people, away from the altar,
says the following Offertory Sentence:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *(Ephesians 5:2)*

A hymn may be sung.

The Deacon receives the people's offering.

The people kneel or stand as able

The Deacon spreads a corporal and then] reverently takes the Blessed Sacrament from the tabernacle or aumbry
and places it on the Altar. The deacon returns to the midst of the Assembly

Deacon The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Deacon Let us pray.
Deacon and People:

Almighty Father, whose dear Son,
on the night before He suffered,

instituted the Sacrament of His Body and Blood:
Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully
in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord,
Who in these holy mysteries
gives us a pledge of eternal life;
and Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Deacon: Let us pray in the words our Savior Christ has taught us.
People and Deacon say:

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy Name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Deacon stands in front of the altar, facing the people, and says the following invitation:

The gifts of God for the people of God:

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Deacon receives the Sacrament in both kinds, then communes the Lay Eucharistic Minister(s), then, together, they commune the people.

During the administration of Communion, hymns, psalms, or anthems may be sung.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. [**Amen.**]
The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. [**Amen**.]

Or with these words:

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [**Amen.**]

The ablutions are done in the usual manner.
The remaining Reserved Sacrament is reverently placed back in the tabernacle or aumbry by the Deacon.
After Communion, the Deacon and people kneel.

The Deacon says:

Deacon Let us pray.

Deacon and people:

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
You have graciously accepted us as living members

of Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and You have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve You
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Or the following:

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank You for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Your Son,
and heirs of Your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work You have given us to do,
to love and serve You
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To Him, to You, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

A hymn may be sung before or after the Post-Communion Prayer.

In place of the Blessing, the Deacon, kneeling, may say:

The Lord bless us and keep us.
The Lord make His face to shine upon us
and be gracious to us.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon us
and give us peace

People **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses the people